Journal of P.Fisk

From Feb.6, 1823
till May 15, 1824.

Ancient Mouths of the Nile.

1. The Eastern, Pelusiae, now choaked up.
2. Tanitic
3. Mendesian.
4. Phatnitic-- now Damietta.
5. Sebbennytic
6. Bobitine-- now Rosetta
7. Canopic--at Aboukir.

Gods of Egypt.

Osiris--the Sun Isis, the Moon

Oxen-- sheep-- dogs, Annubis with a dog's head--

The crocodile-- bats-- the Ibis, much like a stork,

-- the Ichneumon-- the ape-- serpents--

Distances in Egypt

Measured from Col. Leake's Map.

from --- to --- geographical miles.

Alexandria Rosetta by Canal 35.

Do --- Fouah-- Canal 35 say 40

Fouah to Rosetta--Nile -- 15 say 20

Do to Cairo-- Nile-- 80

Cairo to Damietta DO-- 100

Do to Suez-- Canal 70.

Cairo to the Lakes of Natron 50 or 60 .

Alexandria Do-- direct 60 or 70

Cairo to Benisouef -- 60.

Benisouef to Minieh-- 65.

Minieh to Radaman -- 20.

Radaman to Maufalout-- 25.

Maufalout to Siout-- 20.

Siout to Abutig-- 10.

Abutig to Tahta-- 15.

Tahta to Akmin -- 20.

Akmun to Girgeh-- 20.

Girgeh to Bagioura-- 20.

Bagioura to Rene-- 25.

Rene to Negadeh-- 15.

Negadeh to Thebes-- 20 - 335 say Eng.m. 400

Cairo to Thebes-- land direct-- 280.

Thebes to Ernels-- 30.

Ernels to Edfou-- 30.

Edfou to Assouan-- 60.

Benisouef to Mar Antonius direct 70

Mar Antonius to the Red Sea--10.

Rene to Cosseir-- 90

Epochs.

Anno Grecorum-- B.C. 309 or 311.

according to Asseman's See Vol.1 p.503 .

Note Anno gre. 1703 A.D. 1392
1392
311

Ali Ibn Abi Tahib learned Arab, companion & disciple of Mohammed the Korân.

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Journal

Grand Cairo, in Egypt. Feb.6, 1823.

In company with the Rev.Jonas King & the Rev.Joseph Wolf I have now made preparations to go into Upper Egypt. We have taken a for which we are to pay 300 piastres per month.

We leave in the care of Mr.Salt one trunk with my name on it wh contains $350, belonging to Mr.King, $200 to Mr.Wolf & $400 to me-- also in the room of Osman the Dragoman Mr.King's chests Nos.1 & 2,- a tin box of tea & a case of wine-- & in Mr.Salts court-yard 11 boxes of books.-

After preparing our luggage we took leave of Mr.Salt & went to the house wh Mr.Lee now occupies on the banks of the Nile, at a place called Cassel Lobar, where our boat lies, & dined with Mr.Lee & his amiable family. At dinner Mr.Lee read us a letter from his Dragoman Guiseppe at Alexandria in wh he states that Mr.Lenzi the agent for Rosetta, who is now at Alexandria has received a letter from his Dragoman Signor Bochor Carrano stating that a high degree of fanaticism had been excited among the Musselmans at Rosetta by our conversation, preaching & distribution of books, & that immediately after our departure the Musselim gave orders to collect all the books that we had distributed put them in a case & send them to Cairo, to the Pasha. We have heard nearly the same from other sources. In view of these events we can only commit our way to the Lord, pray for his blessing, & console ourselves by saying if the Lord be for us who can be against us?

After a delightful walk with Mr.Lee's family in a spacious garden of palm trees adjoining his house, we took our leave & embarked at 5, in our little boat, committing our past labors & our future proceedings to the divine blessing.

It is a highly important circumstance in favor of missionaries & the Bible Society, that there are in Egypt two consuls, Messrs.Salt & Lee, whose influence is so decidedly in our favor.

Feb.7. Fri. Last evening the wind was favorable & we proceeded rapidly till about 10 o'clock & then lay by for the night. This morning when I arose I saw a splendid palace on the east bank of the river, & a little south of it a castle on a hill, the hill running along to the south at a little distance from the river.- As we sailed along we saw on the west bank a fertile plain & at a little distance almost a forest of palm trees. A little before noon we left the pyramids of Sacara on the west, a fair wind.

Sat.Feb.8. Toward evening we stopped to see a Coptic convent on the E.bank opposite the village Mamoun. Three priests belong to it but were all absent. A Copt & a multitude of Arabs were about the convent. The Copt showed us the church. It is a miserable, small, dirty place. It contains two small chapels one dedicated to Mur Girges (St.George) & the other to Abu Sefene. No wind & but little progress today.- Read Isa. 19 & 20, Jer.44 & Ezek. 29, & 30 & 31 & 32, concerning Egypt.

L.D.Feb.9. Though shut out from the assembly of the Saints yet we have with us our Bible & by reading in Baxter's Saint's Rest, & the Memoirs of Martyn & Brainerd we seem to enjoy society with three of the best of men.

About 3 p.M. we passed Benisouef, a considerable village on the west.

Mon. Feb.10. It is a year this morning since the death of Br. Parsons. My thoughts before I rose this morning were much occupied in meditation. I thought of my departed brother. I had some unusually serious meditations on the love of Christ; I felt, I trust, sincere desires to live nearer to my Savior & to serve him with more purity & more fidelity. O that these thoughts may not be like the morning cloud.-

About noon we passed the village & convent of Bibhee on the west bank. There is an island in the river before the village.

In Cairo Mr.Lee showed me a paper of which the following is a copy.-

"Morning Chronicle 11 Sept.1822. From a letter to the Editor entitled "Mission in France" "Extract from the sermon of Mons.Marius. "Why, my brethren, ought we to honor the Priests? We ought to honor them because they are the ministers of Jesus Christ-- because they are his ambassadors, because, if I may so express myself, they themselves are Gods. Did you ever know a more exalted dignity. They are above kings, Emperors & even angels. St.Francois d'Assise, that man whose faith was so lively, whose humility was so profound & who would not become a priest because, as he said, he was unworthy of that order-- this St.Francois d'Assise said, that if he met an angel & a priest together he would pay his first homage to the priest. In effect what grandeur, dignity & power in a priest! To his voice Jesus Christ renders himself obedient, quits the Heaven & comes down upon the altar-- But what am I saying is he not himself another Jesus Christ? He does not say, in our redoubtable mysteries, this is the body of Jesus Christ, but he says, this is my body, this is my blood. And why does he speak after this manner? Why so my brethren? It is because at this instant the man has disappeared & nothing remains but Jesus Christ. In the tribunal of penance he does not say Jesus Christ absolves you, he expresses himself thus, I absolve thee from thy sins, yes I, in virtue of the power in me to tie & untie, I free thee, go in peace!!!"

Tues. Feb.11 About noon we passed a convent on the right with an island before it.

Wed.Feb.12. Wind moderate but fair generally. Rose early & walked an hour on the west bank of the Nile. Met many more people than I usually do in walking, say 100 in the course of the hour, a great part of them Copts.- At half past 10 we passed the Convent of Miriam, at the top of a high & almost perpendicular rock on the east bank.- The rocky hills on the east are much nearer the Nile than the sandy Lybian deserts of the west.-

As yet neither the villages nor the people that we see indicate a very great population; & everything appears dirty, poor & miserable except the immediate productions of nature.

While walking this morning on shore I passed a village in a grove of palm trees, called Massorah.- A man, nearly naked, sat braiding a mat on the ground before a little mud hut wh I found to be a coffee-house. He offered to serve me.

Eve. Arrived at Minie.

Thurs.Feb.13,1823. In the morning we went into the market to purchase some things of wh we had need. In the market we saw a man entirely naked walking about among the men, women & children, with the airs of an idiot or a madman. He came to our Reis, flung his arm around his neck & walked some distance with him. Another man came up to him & kissed him. Mr.Jowett mentions seeing the same or a similar man here four years ago. After we returned to our boat we asked our Arabs who he was. They said a Marabout (a saint.) We asked why he was in the market in that way. They replied Miss Allah (from God). This circumstance illustrates what I have often understood to be a trait of the Musselman character, viz., a veneration for idiots & delirious men on the supposition that they are in some peculiar connection with God.-

After breakfast we went to the Coptic church & thence to the Bishop. His name is Thomas. We showed him the Patriarch's letter & he received us very civilly. He is a short, thick man with a long white beard. His age he tells us is 84. His teeth are all gone but his eyes are good so that he reads small print without glasses. He told us that he understands the Coptic language. He showed us several Arabic & Coptic books, all MSS. except an Arabic Bible. We enquired where he obtained the Bible & he said "A friend like yourselves brought it to us." Among the MSS. was an Arabic Bible which he said was years old, the Psalms Prophets & Gospel in Coptic &c. We enquired if he wd sell any of them. He said No. We however made an offer for one, but he replied "If you would give me a world of money I could not sell one of them. They belong to the Church and are sacred."

We offered him some of our books as a present but he declined them saying that they did not need them because they had already many, very many books. This was a disappointment & mortification which we did not expect. From a Papist such a refusal would not have very much disappointed us. But from a Coptic Bishop we expected some better thing.-

When we were about taking our leave he invited us to remain & dine with him, which we did. It was interesting to see the simplicity of his fare. The table was a wooden frame 8 inches square & perhaps a foot high with a large pewter platter placed on it. Bread cakes were laid in a row around the platter & within were four plates. One contained boiled eggs, another preserved dates & the others soft cheese. This was the dinner. There was neither knife, fork nor spoon on the table. We sat with the Bishop on the side of his sofa, about 3 inches high. Two Copts who dined with us sat on the floor the other side of the table. For liquor we had only one kind, the water of the Nile, & we drank it from a brown earthen jug.

There was nothing to be particularly displeased with in the Bishops manner of receiving & entertaining us, except his stupid indifference in regard to the holy scriptures & the distribution of them among his people. This indeed was the point we had principally at heart & I trust we shall never feel satisfied with any personal attentions that may be paid to us, while the cause of Truth is opposed or treated with indifference.

At one we left Minie.- Toward evening we passed the chain of rocky hills on our left which are full of grottos, in wh the early Chirstians found a retreat in times of persecution.

Fri.Feb.14. Passed the village Bladia, on the west, inhabited wholly by Copts. Near it is Ranadamun where is the factory of sugar.

L.D.Feb.16 About noon we arrived at Manfelout. While my companions were walking on shore some Coptic priests came along. I showed them our books & they purchased four & I sent one to the Bishop.

In the evening we enjoyed a very refreshing season in reading the Ss & social prayers.

Mon.Feb.17. At 2 P.M. we arrived at Siout, the seat of government for Upper Egypt. Siout is a considerable town a little way from the Nile on the West. Ahmed Basha is now Governor of Upper Egypt to whom we had a letter from Mohammed Ali Basha. We went up to the town, & found the Cadi sitting at the gate. It reminded me of those that sit in judgement at the gates-- We made our business known to the Cadi. He invited us to sit with him, ordered coffee & sent to inform the Basha's lieutenant who now acts in his place. After we had waited a while the dignified personage came. He was on horseback preceded by 6 grooms, & accompanied by a considerable retinue. He went into a small presence chamber & the Cadi took us immediately to him. He received the letter, ordered coffee, conversed a little with us, & at our request called a writer & ordered a passport to be made out for us to the Upper Country. We then took our leave & went to the Coptic Bishop. His name is Michael, & his appearance is quite in his favor. He is now recovering from a fit of sickness. He received us very agreeably & treated us with pipes & coffee. We gave him a Test. a Psalter & a Genesis & he sent 3 priests viz. Shenooda-- & Hilta & Meenah, to take books to sell while we are gone to Thebes. W gave them 50 Tests. They are to pay us 5 piastres for every copy they sell.

Tues.Feb.18,1823. About 2 P.M. we arrived at Abutig. Mr.Wolf & Mr.King took some books & went to see the Koumas, an ecclesiastic between Priest & Bishop, & is here in the Bishops place. They sold a few books & returned to the boat. Several other Copts soon came & also bought books. We gave a young 5 Tests & 5 Gen.to sell. He is to give us 5 piastres for every Test.& 1 piast for every Gen. wh he sells. I do not know his name but a merchant called Makari brought him to us & is responsible for the books.

Wed.Feb.19,1823. Morn. There being no wind we are still at Abutig. The young man who took the books to sell called on us again. His name is Flooteh. His father is Mesherkee.--

About 9 we set out, the men drawing our boat with a rope. On leaving the village we passed the tents of some hundred black soldiers who are learning the Duropean discipline.--

I am now recovering from an attack of illness which commenced last Thursday. I was attacked with head-ache--chills--loss of appetite-- pains in my bones--sickness at the stomach-- a dry,hot skin-- & a feverish pulse.- I first took an emetic, 3 grs.of tartar Em. & 15 grs. of Ipecachnana-- This operated both as emetic & as a purge, but did not cause me to vomit so much bile & did not clear my stomach so well as I had hoped. Two days after I took physic-- 3 of the anti-billious pills wh Dr.Kennen gave me in the morning & two more at noon. It always takes an unusually large dose of medicine to affect me.- I am now,by the Divine blessing, in a good measure recovered.

When in ill health, among strangers & destitute of accommodations, the mind begins to turn back to the friends which we have left behind. While unwell with my mattress spread on the cabin floor, no chair but a box of books, none of the little delicacies & comforts which mothers & sisters always know how to provide-- the wind blowing into my cabin in every direction-- my brethren obliged to walk over to go to their beds-- in this situation I remembered how I was once ill at Mrs.Manadan's in Salem-- at Mrs.Clutes in Reading & at Mrs.Shaw's in Raleigh. I sometimes almost sighed for the comforts of a tight,clean room, a soft bed & an easy chair & for the comforting little attentions of female wh are so comforting in time of sickness. But then, I thought, how much better is my situation than that of many better men than I, has been. What must not Brainerd have suffered when sick among the Indians! And Martyn, what were his trials, with the heat, the dirt, his savage guide & no friend near him! My own dear Br.Parsons likewise suffered more than it would be easy to express, while at sea & especially while at Syra, feeble, much of the time delirious, his physician trying to persuade him that his host wished to hasten his death, no faithful friend near him, nobody to read, pray or converse with about divine things, few of the attentions & comforts which even I enjoy here.- I have two beloved & faithful brethren with me. Br.King is instead of physician,nurse & Mother & sister. Instead then of murmuring, let me be grateful that I enjoy so many more comforts than I deserve.- And as my health returns O that it may be more entirely than ever devoted the service of my Preserver!

While sick I am extremely fond of the little attentions & solaces of friendship & I almost always feel new motives to sympathise with the sick & to render, on future occasions, all the assistance in my power to my sick brethren & friends.

Toward evening we called at a village named Saorfi, a little way from the Nile on the west, a ppor,miserable village. Many of the inhabitants are Copts of whom we saw a great bynber, Only one whom we saw beside the priest knew how to read. To the priest we gave a Test. & other books & recommended to him to read it to the people who cannot read.

Thurs.Feb.20. About noon as we were walking on shore, a Copt came up to us who said he was from Abutig, his name was Yohanna,(John) brother of Flooteh. He said he had come from Abutig to obtain some gospels from us. As his object was to dispose of them again we offered him 10 Test. for 40 pias. He offered 30 to wh we finally agreed. This has been a very encouraging circumstance to us, as it indicates a desire among the people to have the scriptures. In this country, the Christians are so poor that they will not pay for books unless they really want them.- We fell in with this Copt just before we arrived at the village Mishti on the N.-

Fri.Feb.21. Morning sold 2 Tests. & a Genesis to some Copts in a boat.- No wind-- proceed by drawing with a rope.

Sat.Feb.22. Passed a village on the west called Shag (Souhaug) A great number of the Pasha's troops were encamped near it. They are Nubians (black) dressed in red, & disciplined according to European tactics.-

This has been a peculiarly interesting afternoon. About midday we arrived at Akmins, a considerable town on the east bank.

We took some books & went to the Coptic Church. We there learned that the Bishop is now at Girgeh. We saw the Koumas or Head Priest an old man, who immediately purchased some of our books. We saw also 4 or 5 other priests. There are 6 or 7 in Akmin & several hundred Coptic houses, some told us 500. The priests also tell us that there are many Copts in the mountains. We sat down in the church yard & offered our books for sale to those who were present. The information was circulated & others came to purchase. We were obliged to go to the boat repeatedly for more books. The Koumas sat by my side most of the afternoon to assist me & some of the other priests were also helping us. How different their conduct from that of the Catholic priests in Alexandria. Before 9 in the evening we sold 90 books, (Test.& gen.) for 324 piastres & tracts for 3 pias. & gave away 9 books besides tracts.-

In the evening there fell a few drops of rain, but scarcely enough to be perceived.-

L.D.Feb.23. When we awoke in the morning we found a great number of Copts waiting to purchase the scriptures. What was our duty? We had discussed the question & decided not to sell on the sabbath except in some peculiar cases. But here were a multitude literally clamorous for Bibles. It is lawful to do good on the sabbath days. The sabbath was made for man & not man for the sabbath. God will have mercy rather than sacrifice. We cannot spend the sabbath in preaching to these people, but we can sell them the word of God itself. We on the whole thought it our duty not to send the multitude away, & accordingly offered our books. The Koumans & some of the priests were present, bought some additional copies & assisted in selling. Before 10 A.M. we sold 47 Tests.& Genesis for 173 piastres, & tracts for 9 piastres, & gave away 2. Making the whole number sold in less than 24 hours 137 for 497 piastres besides a considerable number of tracts for 12 piastres. Thanks & praise be to God for the scenes of last evening & this morning! May his blessing be on the books we have distributed & the people who have received them.

Just before noon Br.King read to us an interesting portion of Saints Rest & we united in prayer.-

At evening we arrived at Ab-Minshieh a small village on the west bank. Near the village a considerable number of soldiers were encamped. We went into the village with some books and called on the Koumas or principal priest of the Copts. He is about 55 years of age & nearly blind. He received us first in a stable where were two jack asses. After we had waited & conversed some minutes here he took us through another stable where were several buffaloes, & then up stairs to his apartments wh had but little more of neatness about them than the stables we had passed through. There was so much smoke & dirt as seemed to render the apartments nearly uninhabitable. A bottle of saki (Turkish brandy) was produced. The Koumas drank first out of a coffee-cup & then offered to us. He continued at short intervals the whole evening, in a manner wh gave us no favorable idea of his temperance. He told us there are two other priests in the village, one of whom came in, after we had been there a little while. The whole number of Coptic houses is 30 with one church. Rafael the Koumas invited us to sup with him to wh we assented. A blanket spread on the earth floor served us for seats. The table was about 3 inches high. The supper consisted of one dish of meat, one of soup & some bread. We ate the soup by dipping pieces of bread in it, & from the meat each one helped himself with his fingers. Such was the supper, & served up without any excuse or

compliments. ---- Rafael says that in their religious worship they read their prayers & the gospel first in Coptic & then in Arabic. They also have sermons or exhortations in Arabic, of wh he gave us an example in MS. We gave him & those who were with him four books, sold him 6 for 17 piastres & exchanged 8 for a folio volume in Coptic MS. consisting I believe of prayers & extracts from Ss. He syas he wrote it himself 7 years ago. We talked about the Fathers & I observed when I mentioned Chrysostom that he did not understand me. We soon spoke of John as the mouth of God. I recognized the translation of Chrysostom. The poverty & misery in wh these people seem to live is almost beyond description, but whether they are really as poor as they seem, may perhaps be doubtful.

Mon.Feb.24, 1823. About noon we saw 4 or 5 crcodiles, the first that we have seen. They were lying on the sand near the water. We came so near them in the boat as to attract their attention & they plunged into the river, but we were not near enough to form an opinion concerning them.

A little after noon we passed Girgeh, on the west, wh was formerly the capital of Upper Egypt. As the wind was favorable we did not stop.

The mountains on the East come very near the river & are full of grottos, once the residence of hermits.-

Stopped for the night at Behane, a village wh is mentioned in Col.Locke's map Mr.Jewett speaks of stopping at Baliene, a little south of Abutig.

Tues.Feb.25. In the forenoon saw several crocodiles at some distance.

When walking on shore hoticed some Doum trees. It is a species of the palm tree, but the tree is neither so large, nor so high, but it is smoother, the wood seems harder & the tree often has several branches wh is not the case with the palm.

Wed.Feb.26. Stopped for the night opposite Dendera (the Tentyra of the Ancients.) Had a fair wind most of the day.-

Thurs. Feb.27. Most of the day a strong wind. About noon, the sandy mountains being near us on the west & the wind blowing high from that direction, the air was filled with sand driven before the wind like snow in N.England when a heavy N.W.wind follows a fall of light snow. It came into our boat & even into our cabins so that our clothes & books were covered with it.-

About sun-set we arrived at Wegadel a small village on the West. The great part of the inhabitants are Copts. Mr.King being unwell, Mr.Wolf & I took some books & went into the village. We found our way first to one of the priests, & showed him the Patriarch's letter. After reading the letter he sent us to the Kumases, whom we found at the ch. We showed him our letter wh he read. We then showed him our books, but he said they had already a plenty of the N.Scriptures. He did not even pay us any attention at all, but soon walked away. One man bought a T$_e$st.& a Psalter of us for 10 piastres, & we gave him a Gen.& 2 tracts Bakshish. Nobody else appeared to purchase. A priest named Antonis asked us to his house, & showed us an Arabic Bible wh he said an Eng. priest named Jowett gave him 4 years ago. He said he had read the whole of it, understood it well & was much pleased with it.

He showed us a Coptic MS. for wh we finally gave him a Test. & a Gen. Some men afterwards came to our boat with two Coptic & one Arabic MS. for wh we gave them a Test. & a Psalter.- I have no doubt that the conduct of the Kumous was the cause of our selling so few. I will not even conjecture whether his conduct arose from a natural incivility of disposition, or from religious bigotry, or from ignorance or from a mistaken opinion of our design. To his own Master he stands or falls.

Fri.Feb.28,1823. I went into the village of Negardch in the morning with our servant to get some books for sale. One man bought a Test. a Genesis for wh he was to pay me 7 pias.but instead of 7 he brought me 6 & 6 cakes of bread & some cheese-- exchanged with another man a Genesis for a MS. & with a third a tract for a MS.- These MSS. appear to be all prayer books & I apprehend are of but little value.

About sunset we arrived at Lexor, one of the villages of Thebes, in 22 days from Cairo. Here we met with two companies of travellers, One on their way to Assouan, consisting of a Polish nobleman whom we knew in Cairo, one Englishman & a German. The other are returning from Dougala & consist of a Russian count & two Germans.- In the evening these gentlemen called on us in company with Mr.Rifault, a Frenchman who has been here several years employed as an antiquarian in researches.

Sat.March 1.Mr.King is so much better as to be able to walk out. We walked around the Temple of Luxor wh Mr.Rifault says is called the temple of Osymandias (i.e.Sesostris) We called on the Coptic priest Maravius (Makar) who bought a Test.& a Genesis. He says there are 60 Coptic houses in Luxor & three priests. One of them who is the brother of Makar came in with his little son. Many persons were present but none of them could read. The priest gave us but little encouragement of selling books here. Mr.Rifault mentioned that the Copts who are employed by the Pasha at Assouan have obtained leave to build a church there wh they are now doing.- The appearance of Luxor is exceedingly miserable, the houses of mud & unburnt bricks, low, dirty, the people ragged & dirty & every thing indicative of the greatest misery.- While we were walking in the street two men came after us with a pot wh had serpents wh they took out in their hands. One of them took out a scorpion. Mr.Rifault afterwards told us that these serpents are poisonous, but their poison is all contained in two teeth. The men first charm the serpents, then knock out the two poisonous teeth, after which they can handle them as they please without harm.

In the afternoon we sent for three asses to ride out & see Luxor. They brought us three small she-asses, without saddle or bridle, with each a blanket doubled & laid loosely on the back instead of a saddle, two lead ropes about the neck instead of bridles, the other nothing. We rode first around the village & then into it, to the temple. We came first to the eastern front wh seems to have been the entrance. Before the gate were two immense statues of red? granite, in a bad state of preservation, the body of each statue is about 9 feet in diameter below the shoulders. The head piece resembles in form the representations usually of Alexander the Great. One of them has an obelisk at its back of the same height with itself & covered with hieroglyphics. The other is supported by a large granite slab.

Before the statues are two obelisks of red granite, covered on all sides with hieroglyphics, about 7 feet square at the base, but I think not so high as those at Alexandria. What I take to be the wall of the East end of the temple is still standing 50 or 60 ft high. I went up to the top where I had a good view of the village. I saw the stupendous ruins of this ancient temple-- & around it immense heaps of rubbish & in the midst of the rubbish say 100 or 200 mud-walled huts. Such indeed is the appearance of these huts that you hardly seem to be in an inhabited village. In fact when I arrived at Luxor I could hardly persuade myself that what I saw was in fact Luxor, wh Mr.Denon, if I recollect aright, calls a village of 3,000 inhabitants.- East of the gate of the temple are old walls & columns of grey (or black) granite, all covered with hieroglyphics. I should suppose from the appearance of the ruins that the temple must have consisted of two principal parts, one near the great gate & the other connected with it by a passage wh is now indicated by two rows of columns, 7 in a row; arch 30 feet Russell says 22 ft in circumference, & composed of stones 4 feet thick, these columns are about 14 feet apart & on the top there are stones wh reach from the centre of one to the centre of the next i.e. 18 or 19 feet long. Beyond these rows of columns are walls & columns wh I supposeto be the remains of the great western (southern?) half of the temple. I think there are in all not less than 150 or 200 columns of different forms, sizes & heights, and also a great number of walls covered with hieroglyphics.- Here without doubt were once offered pagan sacrifices, not to God but to devils-- Ruins so stupendous after the lapse of 3 or 4000 years, show that the temple in the time of its glory must have been magnificent beyond conception. But as these walls are now almost buried up in dust & rubbish, so all human glory will soon fade & wither in the dust-- But there is a temple whose columns shall never fall & whose glory shall never fade, whose worship shall never cease & whose inhabitants shall never die. O that when all earthly temples & palaces shall be buried in one universal ruin, my soul may be an inhabitant of that imperishable temple.

Just at evening I walked out on the banks of the Nile, casting my eyes around on the temples of Luxor & Cannae & the plains of ancient Thebes, & the surrounding mountains, & enjoying the meditations wh the scene was calculated to inspire. After a while my musings were interrupted by the approach of a young man who addressed me in Arabic. I did not well understand him but began to ask him such questions as my knowledge of the language enabled me to propose. When I asked if he was a Copt, he answered Yes, & to convince me of it he made the sign; a decisive proof for no Musselman wd do this on any occasion whatever. He afterwards asked if I was a priest & when I told him yes he took my hand & kissed it with great reverence, a common token of respect to ministers.-

Last evening we informed Dr.Rifault that we would be glad to get apartments for a few days on shore. We wished for this on account of Kings illness, the cabin of our boat being small & much infected with fleas, lice & mosquitoes. This morning he spoke of a house belonging to the Bashaw wh might be had.

We went with him to see it but the man who had the key was absent & did not return till evening. On his return Mr. Wolf & I went to look at the house. Just within the door we found some Arabs sitting on the ground at supper. They took a lamp to show us the different apartments of the house. In the same room in which they were eating supper was a jack ass. Passing through this room we came to the stairs. Three or four of them were broken away so as to render it almost impossible to ascend. On reaching the top we found the floor of the rooms was made in this way. Beams of the date supported the small branches of the same & reeds & these were covered with earth, so that the chamber floors had nearly the same appearance as the streets. Before the door were several large holes, the branches wh supported the earth having given way. These holes were so large that we got over them with difficulty, & on entering another chamber we found the floor so slender that it shook under our feet & we dared to walk across the room only with a cautious step. In this situation our light went out. We had some little apprehensions about our return, until another light was brought to us. Each room has large windows or rather places for windows for they are entirely open. The roof was of loose bushes & had many apertures, some of wh were large.- Such was the house, wh was offered us in Thebes & probably as good a one as we could have procured. After looking at this it did not take us long to resolve on remaining in our boat notwithstanding the vermin wh infest it.-

L.D.March 2,1823. In the morning I read 3 chapters in Romans to my servant & spoke to him about religion.- Afterwards we spent a season together in social worship, on wh occasion we read the account of Brainerd's conversion & some extracts from his journal. This led us to contrast this monument of Brainerd's conversion & ~~some extracts from his~~ his character with the character of Busiris, Ozymandias, Cheops, & Cephrenes & the monuments wh they raised to perpetuate their glory. All their cities, mausoleums, temples & pyramids seemed like children's toys compared with the crown of glory wh Brainerd won. They shall perish, most of them indeed have perished already, but this shall remain forever.

March 3 1823. Mon. Mr.Rifault had the kindness the other day to offer us his horse & jack asses to go to Carnac. This morning at 8 o'clock we set out, passed by the village of Luxor & in half an hour, going nearly N.E. we arrived at the ruins of the temple of Carnac. We spent about 4 hours in looking at its ruins. We came first to a gate on the south side & near the west end of the temple. The temple fronts about S.S.E. In coming up to the gate we passed between two rows of lions, sphinxes? 50 in each row. Some were almost enitrely destroyed, & the heads were broken off from them all. Those that were nearest entire had each a statue of some god before it & of the same piece. We then came to the outer gate. The whole column is 40 feet square & as nearly as we could judge 70 high. The passage is 18 feet wide. The whole covered with hieroglyphics (except on the E & W.sides) among wh were many warriors. From this gate we advanced between 2 rows of lions of 10 in a row-- about 40 paces to a second gate wh led into a portico. In this stood about 30 columns nearly 20 feet in circumference. Their true height we cd not determine on account of the rubbish wh

had accumulated in the portico. Some of them rose about 30 feet above the rubbish. Passing a third gate we entered a still smaller apartment in wh were 8 similar columns. We than came apparently to the end of these ruins & found ourselves among the dirty mud huts wh constitute the present village, & are inhabited by ignorant & miserable Arabs, all Musselmans, the number of dogs being to all appearance nearly equal to that of human beings.- Advancing about 200 paces (say 600 feet) we came to an immense pile of ruins. We went to the N.side of the temple (wh looks in reality to the W.H.W. There we found another gate with rows of lions sphinxes before it, but so nearly destroyed as to render it impossible to count them. The gate itself, compared with that wh we first entered is extremely simple & without hieroglyphics. After entering the gate we found ourselves in a large apartment in wh were 16 rows of columns, of 9 in a row, altogether presenting a magnificent appearance. The two rows wh form the passage toward the eastern gate were higher than the rest & surmounted with capitals. A part of the stones wh composed the covering of this apartment still remain supported by the columns & are about 20 ft in length. At the gate wh leads out of this apartment to the east are two pair of obelisks, one of each pair is fallen down & broken to pieces & the other two are still erect & complete. The eastern one is about the same size & I should think about the same height. The western one as those of Luxor & Alexandria is 7 ft square at the base & as we ascertained from its shadow about 60 ft high. This is at present the most splendid part of the temple. A little E of these obelisks is a gate, where the adjoining walls are all of Syene granite. Here we left this range of ruins & went 340 paces W. to a high pile at wh is the N or N.E. gate. It resembles the gate at wh we first entered & has rows of lions sphinxes before it in the same manner. Between this gate & the principal range of ruins are in several places broken walls & columns. From this gate I returned to the principal range & proceeding to the E.came to an apartment the covering of wh still remains. This covering is supported by two rows of columns, & in a row. In an adjoining apartment E of it are 12 columns. There I came to several statues, some of wh have a striking resemblance to mummies. Among these are 10 or 12 columns. The E. or S.E.gate resembles the W.or N.W. to wh it corresponds. There is a regular passage from one to the other & the distance is about 520 paces (say 1560 ft.) This is the extent of the temple from E to W. This gate has some few hieroglyphics but no statues of lions before it. From this we passed on to a second gate on the S. or S.W.side, considerably to E of that by wh we first entered. The walls adjoining this gate are of granite & an immense statue adjoins it. Entering we came to a second, a third & a fourth gate, at each of wh the wall is still standing & there are also several statues. Before this gate are two rows of lions sphinxes 60 in each row but as in the case with the others, all at present without heads. At the end of these rows of lions sphinxes are also some heaps of ruins, & among them a great number of statues. I counted about 60 statues of Leo & virgo, all of grey granite, & about 20 of lions,some of wh had heads of women, several also of rams of an enormous size with great horns. South of these ruins is a pond of water. There is also a pond of water in the S.E.part of the area of the temple.-- The extent of the area from the S.gate to the N.gate is about 660 paces (say 1980 ft)-

Toward Eve. walked out to look a second time at the temple of Luxor. It is about 300 paces (900 ft) long & from 50 to 100 or 150 ft wide.

Today being the first Monday of the month in the evening we spent some time in social prayer in union with Christians in different parts of the world.

Tues. March 4. Early in the morning we fell down the river a little way, passed to the other side & took Jack asses & rode to Gornou, about one hour from the river. We stopped at the house of Mr. John Athanasius, to whom we had a letter from Mr. Salt. He is a Greek & has spent several years in making excavations & searching for antiquities in Thebes for Mr. Salt. His house stands over an ancient tomb. He lived some time in this tomb & then built a house over it wh he now inhabits. From him we received during the day much attention. He spent the day in showing us the antiquities of the place. We set out first to see the tombs of the kings wh are in a valley N.W. of his house. In going we passed a high mountain of broken calcareous stone & sand & in an hour came to the tombs. The E. side of this mountain, called Heenopolis, is full of tombs. We went first to the tomb wh was opened by Belzoni & others in the employ of Mr. Salt in 1817. We entered it by a passage 8 or 9 ft wide & about as high. We descended 28 short stairs, then walked 13 paces sloping, then 25 more stairs then 18 paces wh brought us to the first set of chambers, wh consists of three apartments, one 15 ft by 18 the others 30 ft. sq. & 10 or 12 high.- Then descending 18 stairs & 10 paces we came to a second set of rooms, the principal one was 50 ft. by 30. Here when the tomb was opened was a sarcophagus of alabaster, wh has been removed to England & is now in the London Museum. Adjoining this is a room 30 ft sq. on three sides of wh there is a projection wh forms a kind of table. There are two anti-chambers 8 or 10 ft sq. & 7 high. All the walls of the chambers & passages & also the pilasters are covered with hieroglyphics. In one place are priests dressed in white handling serpents, in another persons offering sacrifices, in a third a company of prisoners, in a fourth dead bodies, &c.&c. There hieroglyphics are in high alto relievo relief. Those of the obelisks, of the temples & of the other tombs wh we have seen are generally in basso relievo (cut in) & have a scarabaeus in wh the hieroglyphics are merely written.

We went next to a tomb wh is called Memnon's. The passage is about 10 ft. wide & 12 ft high. This passage is long & some has small open apartments on its sides, but no large chambers as in the first tomb we visited. At the end of the passage is an apartment 14 paces by 8, in wh is a broken sarcophagus of Syene granite.-

We entered only one more of the Tombs of the Kings. After descending 65 paces we came to the sarcophagus, almost entire 12 ft long-- 7 wide & 7 high. The passage extends 20 paces beyong the sarcophagus.-

Twenty six or seven of the tombs of the kings are now open. There were said anciently to have been 47 in all. Leaving the tombs we rode down the valley toward the Nile, passed around the mountain & returned to the house of Mr. Athanasius in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hour. We dined with him & passed the heat of the day at his house. I I conversed with him some time on the subject of religion & found him an infidel. He said he had never read the Bible & intimated

that he did not wish to read it. I offered him a Test. He seemed quite disinclined to receive it, but after a long conversation he said he wd find time to read it.- He showed us several mummies, vases, small idols, coins, rings, & other antiquities.

In the afternoon we went first to the temple of Memnon, S.E.of his house. The wall of the E end with a gateway is standing 75 paces long & 50 or 60 ft.high,but falling. The length of the temple as now appears from its ruins is about 160 paces. I counted 47 columns still standing, but the most interesting object to be seen at this temple is the statue of Memnon, now fallen & broken into several pieces. The body below the arms measured 12 ft through from side to side & the arm is 4 feet in diameter. It is of Syene granite. We went next to the temple of Isis, wh is W from that of Memnon. It is much smaller than the other temples wh we have seen, but has some very fine apartments. Continuing our course around a small mountain wh stands before this temple & turning toward the Nile we came to Medinat Abu (see next page) & thence to the two colussus'es of Memnon. Both are of the same size, & look toward the East. They are not far from the temple of Memnon. The height including the pedestal all were told in about 70 ft. I stood on the pedestal of one & measured 12 ft. on the leg & still wanted considerable of reaching the knee. These colossal statues are in a sitting posture, a little distance from each other. One is almost perfect & of one stone. The other was no doubt at first like it but the upper part of it was broken to pieces,as it is said by Cambyses, & it was repaired by one of the Ptolemies, so that the upper part of it is now built up of several stones & of a different kind from the original stone. On the legs & feet are Gr. & Lat.inscriptions wh, our guide told us, import to have been inscribed by persons who came at sun-rise to worship & heard an echo issue from the colussus. Robbins quotes Strabo as saying that there was at Thebes a statue of Memnon wh uttered an articulate sound when the beams of the rising sun first shone upon it in the morning. Vol.1 p.127.- It seems however that Strabo doubted whether the sound really came from the statue.

From these statues we returned to our boat at Luxor.-- Medinat Abu contains the ruins of a large magnificent temple but I observed nothing peculiarly interesting. There are no inhabitants at present but extensive ruins of brick walls & houses, wh were probably the work of the Greeks, or perhaps of the Saracens. At Gornou are a considerable number of inhabitants, most of whom live in the grottos of Heenopolis. There are a few mud huts among the tombs along the side & at the foot of the mountains. There are no Xns among them.

While Mr.King & I were making this excursion Mr.Wolf went to two villages to see the Copts & supply them with the scriptures. Both the villages are W. of the Nile, but some way south of Gornou. He went first to Al Baarat, 2 hours from Luxor where he found 3 Xn families. Two hours from Al Baarat he came to Armend. There Mallem Maghrus bought 3 Testaments. The whole number of Xns at Armend is 60 souls. In the course of the day Mr.W gave 8 copies of Genesis to Mussulmans.

Wed.March 5,1923. During our stay at Thebes we have sold 11 books, viz 7 Arab.Test. 1 Do.Fr. & 1 Do.Ital. 1 manuel 21 gen. for 47 pias & we have given away 13, viz. 1 Gr.Test. 1 Arab.Do. & 11 Genesis.- Between 9 & 10 we took our leave of these immense & magnificent ruins, & set our faces again toward Cairo, highly gratified to have seen though but hastily & imperfectly, these interesting objects, but still more highly gratified to have been permitted to supply so many nominal Xns with the invaluable word of God.- About 5 P.M. we passed Negaleh.

Thurs.March 6. About 9 A.M. we arrived at Kenah Mr. Wolf & I took some books & went into the town & enquired for Mallem Boulus (Paul) who is mentioned in Mr.Jowett's Journal. When we reached his house we learned that he was with the Musselim. A man was sent to inform him of our arrival & he immediately came to see us. We showed him the Patriarch's letter & then our books. He looked at the books, kissed them, & purchased several, & assisted us in selling to others. He says there are 1500 houses in Kenah of wh 150 are Coptic. There is no Church or Priest in Kenah but the Copts go to church at Goos 3 or 4 hours off where are also many Copts. Iscarus a learned Mallem came in & afterwards accompanied us to our boat. He says Mallemy means a writer of the government. He knows Aratic, Turkish & Coptic. Another Mallem came in while we were with a professor, doctor, schoolmaster Mallem Boulus, who teaches a school of 30 children. To him we gave 5 copies of Genesis, to be given as premiums to such of his pupils as make most rapid progress in their learning. Within 4 hours after we arrived at the village we sold 17 Arab.test. for 97 pias & 14 Gen. for 17 in all 37 for 114 & Tracts for 2. We have reason to speak very highly of the attentions we received from Mallem Boulus & of the part he acted in regard to the sale of books, & it gave us the highest pleasure to find such a desire to possess the scriptures. May God bless the copies we have distributed here & elsewhere.- The Musselman pilgrims in going to Mecca pass through Kenah & thence to Cosseir. I have no where seen so many women unveiled or so bold & shameless as here. I judge the place to be a perfect brothal.

Tentyra About 1 P.M. we left Kenah & in about an hour arrived opposite the ruins of Tentyra. We rode out to look at them on jack asses in half an hour, & spent above an hour in looking at them. The temple is in a better state of preservation than any I have seen. We entered it at the N.gate. The first apartment is 40 paces by 20. In it are 10 columns 23 in cir. The second apartment is smaller & nearly full of rubbish. 17 paces by 14 with 6 columns. The third & fourth apartments 15 paces by 5 & without columns. The fifth apartment 13 paces by 6, very dark-- with a well in it. From the fourth apartment we entered a private passage in the wall & after various windings & turnings came out at the top of the temple, wh is nearly covered with the broken walls of brick houses wh have been erected on the temple, of a much more recent origin no doubt than the temple itself. I took the dimensions of the temple on the top of it & found it about 90 paces long & 45 wide. This temple like the others we have seen is built of soft sand stone, wh is not the stone of the mountains in this part of the country. Immense indeed must have been the labor of preparing, transporting

& placing these stones. All parts of the temple are covered with hieroglyphics in basso relievo. On the top the Arabs showed us the place from wh they said the French had taken away a large stone. I presume it to have been the Zodiac wh.has excited so much interest amon'g the learned. About 100 paces W. of the gate at wh we entered is a gate & still farther W of it some ruins with several columns. W.of this gate is also an edifice with 3 apartments, in a good state of preservation. Going E. from the temple we passed another gate & some way further on another wh faced W. & S. & had probably no connection with the temple. The other two may possibly have belonged to the wings of the temple but I think more probably to some palace or smaller temple. There are now no inhabitants at the place, but an abundance of brick walls & houses in ruins.- The village of Dendera is near the Nile a little below where our boat stopped.- We returned to our boat at 5 & floated down the Nile, carried along by the current till late in the evening when we stopped for the night.

Friday March 7 1823. The wind very strong against us so as to almost completely counteract the current. Made very little progress. Toward evening arrived at Dishne a small village on the E. Took some books & went into town. One Copt told us there are 40 another said 30 Coptic houses, & no church or priest. The Musselmans are probably about as numerous as the Xns. We saw a considerable number of Copts, but only 3 could read. These three all purchased books. Left Dishne about sun-set, & kept afloat most of the night.-

At Gars & Naon.

Sat.March 8,1823. A little before 10, we arrived at Al Gasr, a considerable village on the E. We stopped with books, found a Copt who told us there are in the village a Koumus & two other priests, a School Master who has 7 or 8 scholars, one church, 80 Coptic houses & 100 Musselman. We went to the house of the Koumus & waited half an hour for him in a little room dirtier than almost any one I have seen. We then learned that he was busy & could not see us short of another hour. We could not wait, left some books for him & departed. We enquired for the other priests but they were out of town. In returning to our boat we met a priest from Non or Naon who bought a Test. & a Gen. at a very small price. He tells us there are only 6 Coptic houses at Naon. - A little inland from Al Gasr is a Mussulman village called Deblis.- Left Gasr at 11 A.M.- At 12½ passed Naon on the W. A little below Naon we moored, the wind being contrary & very violent. Here a priest from Al Gasr came on board & bought a Test.& Gen. A little below us a large boat was moored wh had a cargo of negro slaves on board, carrying them down to Cairo, a sight wh cd not fail to excite most painful emotions in our hearts.

A little before 3 we left our boat with some books & went to Bacouna a considerable village some way from the Nile. We were an hour and a half in reaching the village. We found several priests & Mellems & a number of people near the church. We sold 2 Test. 6 Gen. & some tracts. At Beycoura are several learned Mallems, a Koumus & 5 priests, one church & a nunnery connected with it in wh are 2 or 3 nuns. A Musselman with whom I conversed told me there 200 houses,half Musselman & half

Coptic. We had not the pleasure of finding among the Copts at Bageoura, Naon, at Gasr, or Kishne so much zeal to obtain the word of God as at Arkim & Kenah, we have however disposed of a few copies in each place. May they be the means of exciting a thirst for the water of life wh some future missionary may be the happy instrument of satisfying. From Bageoura we saw the village of Farkiout, one hour off, but want of time prevented us from going thither. We returned from B. on jack asses & reached the Nile in ¾ hour, considerably below where we left our vessel. We were gone on this excursion four hours.- While we were gone our servant sold 2 Test. & 1 Gen. to two priests from Naon.

L.D. March 9, 1823. There being no wind our boat floated nearly all the night. In the forenoon it was calm & we proceeded rapidly. In the afternoon the wind was contrary & strong & we made very little progress. I read Acts 1 & 2 to Antonio & we had social worship & read from Baxter. A more pleasant Sabbath than we have usually had on the Nile.

Mon.March 10 Having floated nearly all night we awoke in sight of the high minarets of Girgeh. As we approached the town we counted 9 minarets. Arrived at 9½ & went to call on the Bishop. He was asleep. The Koumus received us & told us he had heard of us at Akmin & had been expecting us. A Copt whom we found in the street conducted us to the Bishops house through a narrow passage & after entering the house we passed a dark avenue, ascended & then descended a flight of stairs completely in the dark & were then brought to the rooms of the Koumus. They were entirely without furniture except a mat of reeds, but neater than the rooms in wh we have usually been received by the Coptic clergy. After waiting awhile the Bishop awoke & we were invited into his presence. He was on the roof of the housr reclining on the bed upon wh he had been sleeping. He was in feeble health as might be expected from his age, wh is 90 years. For 31 years he has been Bishop of this diocese. We had but 3 Arab.Test. remaining. We gave one of the Bishop, & sold the others immediately, one of them to the Koumus. We sold also 17 Gen. & several tracts. The Koumus told us that Girgeh has its name from Mar Girgis, & contains 300 or 320 Coptic houses. Besides the Bishop & Koumus there are 5 priests with 3 churches. The whole number of bishoprics is 12.- 2 E of the Nile & 10 W. of it.- Esneh, Negadeh (vacant) Girgeh, Faioum, Abutig (vacant) Siout, Maufelout (vacant) Minie &s. The whole number of Coptic priests in Egypt 230 or 240. There are only 3 or 4 convents of monks, one nunnery at Cairo & one at Bayeoura. The reason he assigned why the number of bishops is so small was the poverty & tribulations wh the Xns are now in.-

About noon we left Girgeh. The Rais soon came to us and said that a month being now past since we left Cairo & the time expired for wh we had paid in advance for the boat he wished for pay for half a month to come. We told him that the agreement we made at Cairo with the proprietor of the boat was that we sd pay no more money for the boat until our return. He disputed this & said it was always customary to pay in advance, that the men now demand their pay, wh is 20 piastres ($1.60) per month besides their food & that he needs money to purchase food for the crew. We finally offered him 100 piastres, but he refused it & insisted on 150 half a month's pay. As we did not expect to have the boat half a month longer we of course refused to give him this sum. On learning this the men rowed

the boat ashore & 4 of the oarsmen left it immediately, only the Rais, the helmsman & one oar's man remaining in it. This they did no doubt with the design of making us feel that we could not do without them & thus bringing us to their terms. We immediately pushed the boat off from the shore & insisted on proceeding with the current to Cairo. The Rais & Pilot insisted that it was impossible without more men. After waiting about an hour he offered to accept the 100 piastres wh we then refused to give him. He wished to go to a village to procure other men but we refused to let him ashore. After nearly another hour we told him that we wd then leave it for him to do as he pleased, but wd not pay for the boat for that day, but if for three days they behaved well & made good progress we wd then give him the 100 pias. To this he assented & going on shore he soon returned with the four men who had left in dissatisfaction In the evening the Rais came to us & told us he was in great trouble. The men demanded money. He also needed money to get bread the next day at Minshieh where he wished to stop 5 or 6 hours to make it as this was much cheaper than to buy. We told him we cd not wait but could instead give him one piastre a day to buy bread for the men. To this he assented on condition of stopping one hour to buy things at Minshieh & of receiving 50 pias. of the boat money, wh we accordingly paid him.

Toward evening as we were walking on shore we met a man belonging to a boat wh was in sight who told us that there was a letter for us on board the vessel. It proved to be a letter from Mr. Consul Salt, & related to our manner of prosecuting our labors in Egypt. While we were in Rosetta, we called on the Musselim who received us very courteously & we afterwards sent to him copies of our books. These however he declined receiving, saying they were not for Mussulmans. The next day while Mr. King & I were gone to the mouth of the river a learned Mussulman Doctor called at our lodgings with Mr. Wolf had a familiar conversation on religious subjects. Soon after our arrival at Cairo Mr. Salt received information that soon after our departure the Musselim sent orders to have all the books that we had distributed brought in to him. (We have not yet learned with certainty whether this order extended to the books distributed among Christians or only those who had been given to Mussulmans wh were only 3 or 4 tracts & Genesis.) At Cairo we also distributed a few books among Musselmans. But heard of no disturbance in consequence. Just before we sailed from Cairo for Upper Egypt Mr. Lee read to us a letter wh he had received from his Dragoman Giuseppe at Alexandria, giving information that Mr. Lenzi, the Consular Agent for Rosetta who is now at Alexandria & in whose house we lodged at R. had received a letter from his Dragoman stating that our visit, distribution of books & preaching in Arabic had produced a great tumult among the Musselmans.

The following is a copy of Mr. Salt's letter.

"Cairo, February 9, 1823.

"Gentlemen,

The Pasha has this morning sent to me to say that several complaints have come to him respecting your distributing books on religion to the Mussulmans as also a complaint from the Governor of Rosetta respecting one of you, among other matters, disputing on points of doctrine with a Turkish priest. He has therefore begged me to request you to desist from such proceedings,

as in the present state of affairs in the Turkish Empire he is afraid some unpleasant consequences might ensue. I have thought it right to give you immediate notice of this to put you on your guard & have to hope that you will be extremely cautious in Upper Egypt in confining your views entirely to the Christians and that with all due discretion, as, otherwise, I have to fear, under consideration of the present disturbed state of the minds of the people, that however unwilling the Pasha might be to meddle with you, you may get into difficulties from which it may not be easy to extricate you. Believe me Gentlemen
with great truth your obedient servant
To Messrs. (signed) Henry Salt"
King, Fisk & Mr. Wolf
Missionaries in Upper Egypt"

This letter implies that there is no impediment whatever on the part of the Musselmans to the distribution of the scriptures except among Mussulmans, & that the need of caution at the present moment arises in part at least from the present distrubed state of affairs in Turkey. This serves to confirm me in the opinion I have for some time entertained that it is our duty made plainly the dispensations of Providence, to labor principally & almost exclusively for the present among Xns & Jews. Here is a wide & promising door open before us & it seems improper to cause it to be shut against us by attempting to force open a door wh Providence seems to have shut against us. Still however opportunities may occasionally occur of giving the ss. to Mussulmans & speaking to them about religion. Should we meet a Musselman who has travelled in Europe-- or who reads European books, or who is liberal & tolerant in his ideas; to such persons & to our teachers & to persons with whom we become acquainted we may speak of Christ & give the Gospel. Mussulmans also come sometimes to purchase ss. of their own accord.- By enlightening & reforming the Xns of Turkey we are removing the stumbling blocks & preparing the way-- & raising up agents to bear a part, when the way shall be prepared, in convincing the followers of the false prophet of their errors & of the truth. As Christ commanded his followers when persecuted in one city to flee to another, so it seems to me that He now says to us by his Providence-- if one door is closed against you, enter at another.- I hope & pray that God may give me grave to meet all dangers in path of duty & if called on to do so, to lay down my life for Christ's sake, still I wish not to run before I am sent-- not to resist the calls of Providence- & it wd grieve me to the heart to be the instrument by any imprudence of mine of causing the door to be shut against future missionaries. Lord teach me the way in wh I sh walk for I lift my soul to thee. -

Tues. March 11, 1823. At 6 A.M. we stopped at Minshieh. After two hours instead of one the men, except the Rais & pilot, came on board & we put off. Without any wind we floated rapidly along. A little afternoon we passed Adkin, opposite the town the Rais & pilot came on board.

Wed. March 12, 1823. A strong contrary wind. At 10½ we arrived at a place where the mountains on the E. came to the river's bank. Here we landed to look at a grotto. We ascended for 20 minutes up a steep mountain to the grotto. Before its entrance are broken walls of unburnt bricks, the remains apparently of a house.

The grotto is cut in the solid rock. That it is the work of art & not of nature is manifest from the marks of the chissel wh are everywhere seen. There are two doors, 18 or 20 ft high, one 15 ft wide the other 15 also two windows. The grotto itself is 33 paces long & 25 deep. There are two large columns in the room before the two doors. On one were 6 men in the same costume & appearance wh we usually see among the hieroglyphics, & under them an inscription of 11 lines, 4 ft.long. This inscription seemed to me to be in Arabic but I cd not determine with certainty, & we had not time to take a fac-simile. There is a hieroglyphic man on each side the door before this pillar. The mountain above the grotto is a solid rock about 100 ft high, very nearly perpendicular. There are some other grottos near but apparently of less consequence We did not examine them.- The mountain faces nearly S.W.-

I have all along looked at these grottos as habitations of the Christian hermits, but I know not how to account for there being hieroglyphics in them. Surely Xn hermits never inscribed such characters on their apartments. Possibly this grotto was first prepared for the performance of ancient pagan rites, & afterwards used as a retreat by Xns who fled from persecution or who tried to seclude themselves from the temptations of the world. They wandered in deserts, & in mountains & in dens & caves of the earth. Neb.11.

Sitting down in one of the windows we cast our eyes over one of the most enchanting seenes in nature. From an elevation of 200 ft we beheld the Nile meandering through the plains that are enriched & fertilized by its waters, while these plains presented to the view a variety & a richness of vegetation seldom seen. Flocks were grazing in all directions, many little villages surrounded by groves of palm trees increased the variety & beauty of the scenery while on the opposite side rose the barren hills wh skirt the Lybian desert. It wd have been a delightful scene for a landscape painter. It wd have been a romantic spot for a poet. And methought a hermit in this cell if truly pious might contemplate the works of God with no ordinary degree of tranquillity & peace.-

In the afternoon Mr.Wolf & I went to walk W.of the river. We called first at the Catholic convent where we found Padre Francesco from Rome a missionary of the propaganda who has been here 8 years. He received very kindly & took care to tell us that he is not one of the superstitious priests. We offered him an Italian bible & some tracts wh he accepted with a thousand thanks & gave us in return one of his mss sermons in Arabic. He has under his care about 500 Catholic Copts in & around Tahta. He told us that his convent was built 50 years ago & that it is now 500 years since the Copts of this country were converted to the Church of Rome. There are 4 Catholic establishments in Upper Egypt viz. at Tahta, Akmin, Girgeh & Farshiout.- There have been others at Negadeh &c. but they are now destroyed. For a long time the missionaries here have received nothing from the Propaganda. Padre Francesco said there was no great difference between the Catholics & English in <u>doctrine</u>, & ceremonies & matters of discipline are not very important. He hopes therefore that one day there may be a re-union. I expressed my hope that the different denominations of Xns wd renounce each its respective errors & so all unite on the ground of primitive Xty. To this he assented, & expressed great pleasure in having made our acquaintance. After a little more conversation we went to see the Copts. We found two priests & learned that there is a third in the village & about 100 Coptic houses, & 3 schools for boys I cannot learn that girls are ever sent to school among the Copts. To the Copts

we sold 10 copies of Genesis & 2 tracts (the only we had remaining.) We have now only 6 copies of Genesis left.-

Padre Francesco told us that the Italian physician of Ahmed Pasha of Siout has just received a letter from Cairo informing him that the Turks at Constantinople have massacred all the Europeans residing there, not excepting even the ambassadors & consuls. This seems too much like a vague report to gain our entire confidence. It has however furnished us with matter for serious reflection, conversation & prayer.

Thurs.March 13, 1823. Noticed many grottos in the mountains on the east.- Passed Saadfi about noon.- At 5 P.M. arrived at Abutig & called on the Koumins. Received 16½ piastres for books wh we left here on our way up.- They told us there is a school here for boys. We inquired if there was one for girls. They said, No. We then asked if any of the women know how to read. As if surprised at the question they said No. "Is there not one who can read?" One of them replied "No not half of one."

Fri.March 14,1823. A little before eight we morred before Es.Siout, the capital of Upper Egypt & the residence of Ahmed Basha. We walked to the town wh is a half hour's walk from the river. I called on the Italian physician of the Pasha who told me that he had received such a letter from Cairo as Padre Francesco spoke of, & that the reported massacre was believed at Cairo & also that the Turks here have heard of it & believe it. He told me however that it has produced no distrubance in Egypt & that we need fear nothing in pursuing our journey to Cairo. It remains to ascertain then what course Providence shall point out for us.-

I soon joined my brethren at the bishops, where we had the pleasure to learn that the 50 Test. we left here were all sold & the priests who took them paid us 200 piastres for them. We sold also 5 Gen.(all we had remaining) one copy of Grotius & one Coptic Test. We have now disposed of all the Arabic books wh we took from Cairo with us. The Bishop Michael is about 55 years old & has been bishop about 8 years. There are 12 priests here & one church. There are schools for boys but girls are never taught to read. A priest gave us his opinion that there are 3 or 400 Coptic houses, & 500 Musselmans. We enquired whether the Catholics in Upper Egypt make any proselytes at present from among the Copts. He said none at all. We asked by what means so many were made Catholics formerly. He replied that the Catholic missionaries came here & began by telling individuals that the Copts were all nothing, & by giving money freely to such as would become Catholics. In this way they made many proselytes. This priest told us that the Copts believe in purgatory & pray for the dead. He also told us that in the churches they read their prayers & the scriptures first in Coptic & then in Arabic. He said if some part of the scriptures were printedin Coptic & Arabic they wd be very acceptable.- One man offerd 4 pias for a Psalter-- Another enquired if we wd not come again with books,& another said more Test. were wanted. We have reason to speak in very high terms of the bishop & priests of Siout especially on account of the part they have taken in the distribution of the scriptures.- We returned to our boat in 1½ hour & were obliged

to wait 4 hours longer before our Rais & the men returned from the town whither they were gone to buy food.- A little before 1 P.M. we left Siout & floated along without any wind.

Sat.March 15,1823. After floating nearly all night we arrived at Manfelout a little before 10. (see p.9) After our men had procured provisions we set off at 11 & soon after had a very light wind in our favor & put up the sail. We have before had it up only about half an hour since we left Thebes.- The wind was very light & did not continue long.- Ali one of our men left us at Siout to visit his friends in a village near. At Munfalout Nassau left us for the same purpose. A little after noon first dervish & then the Rais & Nadjs Hassan went to find Nassau, leaving the boat moored with only the pilot & Mohammed in it. We waited a while & then I loosed the boat from its moorings & set it afloat. The pilot & Mohammed readily took charge of it & we floated on rapidly.-

L.D.March 16,1823. About 10 we moored off Radamun, & while I read & prayed in Gr. with the servant Messrs.King & Wolf called on the Superintendent of the manufactory, who is an Italian. They gave him 3 Test. & 20 tracts which he received very well. From him they heard a confirmation of the report of a general massacre at Constantinople, with the additional circumstance that the Gr.Patriarch was hanged. The Lord will overturn, overturn, & overturn till he whose right it is take the kingdom.-

Here the Rais & two of the men overtook us, much fatigued with walking so far. About noon we set off. About dark the wind rose & for four hours blew a hurriaane from the North. We were meantime safely moored under a high bank.

Mon.March 17,1823. A wind northerly so that our progress was very small all day. Lay by again at night.

Tues.March 18,1823. Visited the grottos on the east of the Nile, a little above Minie. We went to 18 or 20 that were near together. The first we entered was 40 ft.sq. with 4 columns inside & 2 more before the door. In the inner wall fronting the door is a niche in wh is one large statue with a small one each side of it. The walls are covered with hieroglyphics.- Three or four other grottos were as large as this & those of the largest communicated with each other by doors. In some were quadruple columns.- All the others that we saw were small, some in an unfinished state.-

Wed.March 19. Contrary wind. A little before noon we arrived at Minie & remained there on account of the wind till evening. The wind having abated we floated a considerable part of the night.

Thurs.March 20. About 9 we passed the convent of Miriam (Mary) situated at the top of rocks apparently inaccessible on the east bank of the Nile. As we passed we saw a man swimming from the rocky shore toward our boat. He was from the Convent & came to ask alms. He told us there are 10 monks in the Convent. We gave him a piastre & watched him in order to see how he ascended to the Convent, but the boat was moving so fast that we lost sight of him as soon as he reached the shore. It is impossible to discover any passage nor is it easy to conceive how they ascent unless it be by the fissures in the rocks or by a kind of well cut in the solid rock.-

The wind being very mild [?] we make considerable progress.- In the evening passed a village on the east called Shoranne where our Rais says are many Copts. In the evening our men told us that the Mussulmans have both convents & Nunneries, & that in the Faioum a province in the west of Egypt there is a nunnery in wh are 40 nuns.

About 11 the wind began to blow a tremendous gale from the north. We moored but not in a very good place & our boat being old & not very strong we passed rather an unquiet night. The wind continued till near morning.

Fri.March 21. About day the wind abated & we got our men to start. The boat floated along till about 9, when a gentle breeze sprung up from the south & we put up our sail. The current & the wind together bore us along rapidly.

At 3 P.M. arrived at Benisouef, the wind blowing strong in our favor.

At 4½ P.M. left Benisouef.- Counted 4 minarets in the village. At the North End is a large quadrangular building in wh some hundred soldiers are now quartered. A little way from the village were also a considerable number of soldiers tents.

An hour from Benisouef inland is Boush where the Copts have a school of some note. For a little while the wind blew strong & wafted us along rapidly. At midnight we were 20 miles from Benisouef, ⅓ of the way to Cairo. Continued our course all night.

Sat.March 22. At noon we stopped opposite Sanara-- At 2½ we sent an Arab with a letter to Mr.Salt to enquire about the state of Cairo. The wind continued violent & contrary. We passed to the West side & remained till night walking about the plain in sight of the pyramids of Sanara.-

L.D. March 23. About 2 I was awakened by the noise of the men getting the boat under way. At 8 we came in sight of Cairo & at nine having received no answer from Mr.Salt we sent one of our men with another letter & one now waiting his return. The complaints that have been presented to the Pasha concerning us & the reports of a general massacre of the Franks at Constantinople fill our minds with anxiety. We are now waiting in momentary expectation of information wh may either set our minds at rest on the subject, or render it necessary for the present to relinquish our plan of going to Jerusalem, or perhaps even show that we are here in personal danger. My mind is calm & I feel, thanks be to Him who gives all right feelings, I feel an entire & consoling confidence that all will be overruled for the glory of Christ & the advancement of his cause. The derangement of my plans seems of but little consequence if the purposes of Grace are accomplished. Even the loss of my life is a small matter so long as the kingdom of Christ lives & flourishes. My prayer is that my Savior may never forsake me & that I may never dishonor him. While waiting the return of our messenger we read in Martun's Memoirs & united in prayer.

At 3 P.M. our second messenger returned with a letter from Mr.Salt stating that all is quiet in Cairo & there is no plague. This information in some measure relieves us of our anxiety. We have still to learn whether the report from Constantinople be true & whether war has commenced or is likely to commence between Turkey & the other powers.

About 7 we arrived at Mr.Lee's house at Cassel Dobar between old Cairo & Bulae, & had the pleasure to find Mr.L.& family still there. From him we learned that the report from Constantinople was for a time believed here but is now considered a false report.- Mr.Lee also read to us a part of a letter from Signor Lenzi the vice consul of Rosetta, now at Alexandria, in which he states that he had written to Khaleel Effendi Musselman of Rosetta in our favor &c &c. Mr.L. says one report is that the books we collected & burnt, and that the Turks said if they find the men who distributed them, they should be burnt too. Another report is that they were sent to the Pasha at Cairo. It is impossible to ascertain the truth with certainty.

At Mr.Lee's I found several letters, one from Br.Temple informing me that Brs.Bird & Goodell were to sail from N. York in Dec. They are now I trust in Malta. The name of our Redeemer be praised for an accession to our number.-

It is often said in Christian countries that Mussulmans are very exact in performing their devotions. This may be true of some of them, but I have now travelled on the Nile altogether about 60 days with four different crews consisting of from 7 to 11 persons each, all Mussulmans. Now their religion requires them to pray, i.e. to go through the prostrations & forms & repeat the words of their appointed prayers five times a day. Yet during the whole time I have been on the Nile though constantly with the men, I have never seen more than 4 or 5 out about 35 pray at all & those only once or twice each. When I travelled in Asia Minor several days with a Janizary I never saw him perform his devotions at all. I strongly suspect that the great body of the Musselmans are very negligent of what their religion commands in this as well as many other respects.

Out of the four crews that I have been with not a man knows how to read, not even either of the Captains. Mr.Wolf has been with two other crews & tells me it is the same thing with them. Of the laboring classes I have reason to believe there are very few if any in Egypt who know how to read.

In Egypt we have no water to drink but that of the Nile. The common people drink it as they find it in the river, but it is muddy. In going up the Nile, we purchased a large earthen jar for the water to settle in, but on trial found it leaked. A second & third & a fourth leaked. We then hit on the expedient of filtering the water through one of the jars. In this way we had the water very nice & pure. After 20 or 30 days I examined the jar & found a considerable quantity of rich mud settled at the bottom of it. This I suppose is what enriches the land of Egypt when the Nile abates after an inundation.

In our journey to Thebes we were absent from Cairo 46 days & the expenses amounted altogether to about $30, each. We sold in Arabic 211 Test. 127 copies of Genesis, & 7 Psalters & gave away 10 Test. 45 Gen. & 1 Psalter & in other languages we sold 4 & gave away 5. We also distributed 250 tracts of wh we sold to the amount of 24 pias 20 panas. We received in all for books 1151 pias, 20 of which 1100 pias belongs to the Malta B.Sor. & 51,20 to Mr.Jowett.-

Our labors in Egypt are now in all probability nearly finished at least for the present. Could I have had two months time more in Egypt I should have been glad to visit Darietta at the mouth of the eastern branch of the Nile,- the Coptic convents near the

Lakes of Natron 3 or 4 days journey W. or N.W. of Cairo,- Mar Antonius a celebrated Coptic convent 3 days journey east of Cairo, & the place where the Israelites crossed the Red Sea not far from it & Esreh one day's journey above Thebes.- Had I time I should also wish to go now to Suez, Tor, & Mount Sinai.- wh wd require, I suppose another month.-

Copy of a letter from Mr.Leutzen, a German merchant whom we knew in Alexandria to Mr.Wolf,translated from the German.-

"Alexandria Feb.4, 1823.

"To Mr.Joseph Wolf,Cairo.

Very dear Friend,

I hope that you are already safely arrived at Cairo, & that you with your fellow travellers Messieurs Fisk & King are well. On your departure from here I supposed that I should soon be able to follow you, to undertake in your agreeable company the journey to Mount Sinai but my affairs in the Austrian consulate are not yet quite finished on wh account I am very sorry, so much the more as I always desired to visit that remarkable spot, before leaving Egypt forever!

After your departure the public opinion was expressed universally in your favor. Both your sermons on Sunday, as well that on board the Danish vessel as that in the house of the Danish consul very much edified all your hearers, & many of them have expressed the wish that you might soon return to Alexandria.

I have heard in several places that several of the bibles you distributed here among the inhabitants, have been taken by the Catholic priests of this place, but it cannot yet be said with certainty whether those gentlemen have burnt them, it is however generally believed, & we may suppose with much probability that they have burnt them for many many excommunications have been pronounced against those who are in possession of Bibles. But nobody minds such a farce & such buffoonery. The Pater Superior of the Catholic Convent displayed his inquisitorial rage in the most disgraceful manner, the Monday before your departure-- I was not among the hearers, but several of my friends, especially a most respectable Spaniard, who is residing here, confessed it. His speech showed the horrible ignorance of that Egyptian priest, & I really believe that it was not so dark in the times of Pharaoh as now among the Popish idolators. The above-mentioned respectable Spaniard gave me the contents of the sermon. That Popish priest praised the Catholic church as that church in wh salvation exclusively can be obtained & for a proof, he mentioned among many other subjects the following fact, wh said happened among the Catholics in Hungary & was as follows. "A malefactor in Hungary was put in prison & condemned to death-- he refused to be converted by any means whatever. Several priests were ordered to call in the prison on that obstinate sinner, but all their pains were unfruitful & vain; but a Franciscan friar appeared at once & gave his word to convert the malefactor, who still persevered in blaspheming the godhead & religion. The Franciscan friar began now to curse & blaspheme everything, till he arrived at the Virgin Mary. "Stop" exclaimed the malefactor, "O not her!" The Friar was satisfied with that exclamation & congratulated himself on having accomplished such a great work of conversion!"

Is not this an abomination, to preach in the holy temple of the Lord such abominable blasphemy? You may conclude by this single fact what a miserable condition the church here is in. I dare to say that such abominable nonsense is not heard in the public houses in Europe. -- Such fellows ought to be whipped & turned out of the temple of God. I have already distributed the greatest part of the

tracts you gave me & all to whom I gave them were very much content & expressed their gratitude- O my dear friend continue to promote the word of God more & more in the time of your pilgrimage. You shall receive your reward for it from the God of Israel. The good cause must finally gain the victory. As to the dangers you may perhaps undergo, the apostles of the Lord had to combat against many trials. Glorious will be your victory! Farewell & continue ~~rejeieing~~ your journey rejoicing & give me speedy news of you.

Cairo.March 24. Took lodgings at the Loranda of Signor Monnier where we were before.-

Wed.March 26. We went to attend a Jewish wedding at the house of Signor Solomon del Mare. The bride was his daughter. The gentlemen assembled in a large apartment, in reality the court,but used now as a parlor. The ladies were in an upper chamber or rather a gallery, used as a chamber. Six rabbis were present on the occasion. They went through with some prayers in the rapid indistinct manner which, so far as I know is common to all religious services in the east. This was of course in Hebrew. The nuptial torch was then lighted. It was a large wax candle, dividin itself into 9 branches, all of which were burning. This was carried up to the chamber or gallery of the ladies, where the bride was, the bridegroom being all the time among the gentlemen below. The bride was then conducted down stairs, completely veiled, led by two or three women. The bridegroom took his place by her side & the marriage ceremony was performed. One of the rabbis took a ring & put it on the finger of the gentleman & then of the lady & then gave it to the gentleman & he put it on the finger of his bride where it remained. A large camels hair shawl or blanket was then thrown over the heads of the couple. And the rabbi twice gave them wine to drink. All these ceremonies were accompanied by prayers & benedictions from the rabbis. While they were saying the prayers some of the company attended to them with great appearance of devotion but the greater part were talking & laughing & walking about the room. When the ceremony was finished the nuptial torch was extinguished & immediately lighted again & the bride was reconducted to her chamber with the sound of cymbals & other instruments of music.

This evening the Jews keep the Passover & we tried but tried in vain to get an opportunity to eat it with some family. We might perhaps have succeeded had we thought of it a little sooner.

At seven o'clock we went to call on Ismael Gibralter,the Admiral of the Pasha's fleet.- He received us very politely, & we conversed in Fr.& Ital. Hasman Houdennin was present, & two or three men of learning, one famous for his knowledge of Persian &c. A Fr.Dr.Chapan was in the company whose beard was I think 3 ft.long. I never saw anything like it. Our conversation was about languages,printing,travels,poets &c.&c. When we rose to come away he rose, & showed us particular attention & invited us to call in the evening & pass an hour with him whenever we are disengaged.

Thurs.March 27. Rode down to Shoobuch to see the palace & garden of the Pasha.- Thence we went to see an elephant which was brought some years ago from Bombay. It is hirribly beyond anything I ever saw except perhaps camels. Its legs are prodigiously large, its body short but very large. Its height 6 or 7 ft. Its skin & hair are brown & resemble the buffaloes of Egypt. Its head has a